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(*L'Anthropologie*, 1902, xiii. 135) remarks that "the idea of the stupidity of the gods is more widespread than would at first appear to be the case." The boy of a friend of M. Félicien Challaye, who reports the incident, replied, when asked why he burned for Buddha bits of gilt paper instead of real gold : "You *know*; you would n't believe. Buddha is very stupid. He does not know, he believes." The Annamites are not the only ones who take this view of the matter.

COLLECTION OF ESTHONIAN FOLK-LORE. The article of O. Kallas, "Uebersicht über das Sammeln estnischen Runen," in the "Finnisch-Ugrische Forschungen" (Helsingfors, 1902, ii. 8-41), *résumés* the work done since the beginning of the nineteenth century in the collection of Estonian folk-songs, etc. The large collections of Hurt and Eisen, still going on, contained, among other things :—

	Hurt (1890).	Eisen (1897).
Folk-songs	40,500	10,314
Märchen, tales, legends traditions, etc.	8,500	12,906
Riddles	37,000	10,547
Proverbs	45,000	7,093
Items of superstition, folk-lore, etc.	52,000	23,215

These figures give some idea of the great activity of the folklorists of the Finno-Ugrian countries.

PRIMITIVE MATHEMATICS. In a paper read before the International Folk-Lore Congress (Paris) in 1900, Th. Volkov gave some account of "folk-science" in the Ukraine region of European Russia. In 1897 the Statistical Bureau of the Government of Poltava issued a detailed *questionnaire* on popular mathematical procedures. Some interesting facts concerning addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, etc., were brought out. Surface-measurement is done by division into squares and triangles, — the triangle is measured by making it into a square and halving that. To measure the height of an inaccessible object, such as a tree, the Ukrainian peasant "takes a stick of his own height, then goes away from the tree to such a distance that, having laid down and set up his stick at his feet, he can see the top of the tree and the top of his stick in the same line ; after which he measures the distance from his head to the base of the tree."

A. F. C.

FOLK-MEDICINE. A case of folk-medicine has lately come to my notice in Washington. A colored cook afflicted with shingles was told that if she would cut off the tail of a black cat and rub the end of said tail on her shingles it would cure her. This was done and it is affirmed that the woman began immediately to get well. I have not heard, however, whether she is fully cured or not.

Walter Hough, Washington, D. C.